

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

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GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES NEW SMALL BUSINESS STATE GRANT PROGRAM
One North Carolina Fund To Provide Matching Money for Research and Development Technology

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today announced that applications will be accepted beginning Jan. 1, 2006, for the new One North Carolina Small Business Fund, which will provide grants to small businesses to help them conduct research and technology development projects. The special fund was created during the last legislative session using \$1 million through the Easley's One North Carolina Fund to provide its first grants.

“These grants will allow more of North Carolina’s small businesses to conduct the innovative research and technology development that is critical to the future growth of our state’s economy,” Easley said. “This program will further ensure that North Carolina is well positioned to remain a top competitor in the global marketplace.”

The One North Carolina Small Business Fund will support small businesses engaging in research projects through the federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs. Requests for grant proposals (RFPs) and guidelines are posted on the N.C. Department of Commerce’s N.C. Board of Science and Technology website.

The program allows a portion of the One North Carolina Fund economic development incentive money to be used for state matching funds for businesses that receive federal SBIR or STTR Phase I awards. Under this year’s program solicitation, an eligible company may receive an unrestricted grant award from the state of up to 50 percent of the company’s federal grant award up to \$50,000. Applications for state matching funds must be received within 45 days of notification of a Phase I award by the federal SBIR/STTR agency.

For more information about the One North Carolina Small Business Fund, visit the N.C. Board of Science and Technology’s website at www.ncscienceandtechnology.com.

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